

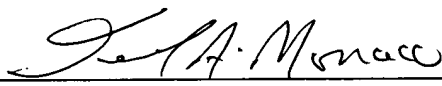
Remarks

Claims 1-33, 36 and 38-41 are pending in the application. The claims have been amended to more closely conform with U.S. practice and reduce multiple dependencies. Claims 34, 35 and 37 have been cancelled by the present amendment.

An abstract is submitted herewith on a separate page. The abstract is identical to the abstract of the international application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Abstract of the Disclosure

The invention relates to a recombinant cell line capable of inducible expression of an α and/or β subunit of interleukin 12 (IL-12), and an ecdosyme-inducible expression vector capable of transfecting a host cell to produce the recombinant cell line of the invention. The invention also relates to a method of screening a candidate compound for the ability to inhibit IL-12 formation and secretion which comprises the steps of incubating a cell line according to the invention with the candidate compound and then assaying the cell line culture for secreted IL-12, or a subunit thereof.